

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF REGISTRATION
IN MEDICINE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1918



BOSTON
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
32 DERNE STREET
1919

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STATE HOUSE, BOSTON.

Officer of Gov't.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE,
STATE HOUSE, Dec. 31, 1918.

To His Excellency SAMUEL W. McCALL, *Governor*.

SIR:—The Board of Registration in Medicine respectfully submits the following as its annual report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1918.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR.

Appropriations.

Salaries of members of Board,	\$4,300 00	
Salary of executive clerk,	1,250 00	
Extra (emergency) clerical services,	50 00	
		<hr/>
		\$5,600 00
Incidental expenses of Board and department,	3,100 00	
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		\$8,700 00

Expenditures.

Salaries of members of Board,	\$4,300 00	
Salary of executive clerk,	1,250 00	
Extra (emergency) clerical services,	15 00	
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		\$5,565 00
Incidental expenses of Board and department,	2,378 60	
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		\$7,943 60

Receipts.

151 examination fees, at \$25 each,	\$3,775 00	
138 examination fees, at \$20 each,	2,760 00	
15 re-examination fees, at \$3 each,	45 00	
Fees received for certified statements,	587 15	
Interest on deposits in Merchants National Bank, paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth,	5 81	
		<hr/>
		\$7,172 96

Since the establishment of the Board in 1894, the fees received from applicants for registration, and paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth, amount to \$155,917.57. The expenditures of the Board amount to \$153,801.95. In dollars and cents, therefore, the Commonwealth has received \$2,115.62 in excess of the total amount expended.

For the year ending Nov. 30, 1919, the Board recommends an appropriation of \$4,300 for salaries of Board, \$1,400 for salary of clerk, \$20 for extra (emergency) clerical service, \$250 for emergency stenographers to report important hearings, and \$2,394.50 for incidental expenses of Board and department.

The number of persons applying for registration for the first time this year is 289, all of whom have been examined except 7. In addition there were 35 who had failed in previous examinations, making the total number of applicants examined 327, as shown in the following table, together with the percentages acquired:—

APPLICANTS.	Examined.	Registered.	Rejected.	Percentage rejected.
February examination, for war service, .	68	68	—	—
March examination,	63	49	14	22
May examination,	53	41	12	22
July examination,	56	39	17	30
September examination,	29	20	9	31
November examination,	32	22	10	31
Additional special examinations for war service.	26	26	—	—
	327	265	62	18+

The following tabulation is based upon the results in the first examination of applicants during the year covered by this report: —

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS GRANTING THE DEGREE.	Number examined.	Number registered.	Year of Graduation of Rejected Applicants.
Harvard,	96	96	
Tufts,	63	60	1918-18-18.
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy,	36	21	1909-12-15-15-15-16-16-17- 17-18-18-18-18-18-18.
Boston University School of Medicine,	16	16	
Physicians and Surgeons, Boston,	8	1	1914-14-15-15-16-16-17.
Johns Hopkins,	5	5	
American School of Osteopathy,	5	2	1917-17-18.
Middlesex College of Medicine and Surgery,	4	2	1918-18.
Chicago Hospital College of Medicine,	4	3	1918.
University of Michigan,	3	3	
Rush Medical College,	3	3	
Maryland Medical College,	2	2	
Baltimore Medical College,	2	1	1905.
Medical School of Maine,	2	2	
University of Pennsylvania,	2	2	
Philadelphia College of Osteopathy,	2	1	1915.
University of Georgetown,	2	2	
University of Vermont,	2	2	
Meharry Medical College,	2	1	1915.
Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia Col- lege,	2	2	
Stanford University,	1	1	
Los Angeles College of Osteopathy,	1	1	
Physicians and Surgeons of Southern Cali- fornia,	1	1	
Des Moines Osteopathic School,	1	1	
Maryland College of Medicine and Surgery,	1	—	1914.
University of Maryland,	1	—	1916.
Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore,	1	—	1902.
Howard University,	1	1	
Columbian University,	1	1	
Bellevue Hospital Medical College,	1	1	
New York University and Bellevue Medi- cal College,	1	1	
Long Island College Hospital,	1	1	
Cornell University Medical College,	1	1	
Syracuse University College of Medicine,	1	1	
Medical College of Virginia,	1	1	

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS GRANTING THE DEGREE.	Number examined.	Number registered.	Year of Graduation of Rejected Applicants.
Wisconsin College of Medicine and Surgery,	1	1	
McGill,	1	1	
Laval,	1	-	1917.
Foreign,	1	-	1903.
Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery, .	1	1	
Washington University Medical School, St. Louis.	1	1	
University of West Tennessee,	1	-	1915.
Hahnemann Medical College, Pennsyl- vania.	1	1	
Temple University,	1	1	
Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania,	1	1	
Jefferson Medical College,	1	1	
Yale Medical School,	1	1	
Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, .	1	1	
Ohio State University College of Homœo- pathic Medicine.	1	1	
American Medical Missionary College, .	1	1	
Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Chicago.	1	1	
University of Oklahoma School of Medicine,	1	1	
State University, Colorado,	1	1	

Tabulations showing number of first examinations and average ratings of applicants from medical schools represented by not less than 3 applicants: —

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.	Number examined.	Average Ratings.
Harvard,	96	80.4
Tufts,	63	78.6
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy,	36	73.5
Boston University School of Medicine,	16	78.7
Physicians and Surgeons, Boston,	8	69.9
Johns Hopkins,	5	82.4
American School of Osteopathy,	5	71.9
Middlesex College of Medicine and Surgery,	4	70.7
Chicago Hospital College of Medicine,	4	76.0
University of Michigan,	3	78.4
Rush Medical College,	3	80.4

The following tabulation is published to illustrate the point which has been made that students frequently find it necessary to take supplementary instructions before being able to pass the examinations of this Board, for it is reported by some of these students that when they find themselves inadequately equipped, it is a common practice to hire instructors to give them courses in such subjects in which they find themselves deficient.

NAME OF INSTITUTIONS.	Number rejected.	Times rejected.	Registered on —
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy, . . .	2	3	
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy, . . .	3	2	Third examination.
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy, . . .	3	2	
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy, . . .	4	1	Second examination.
Massachusetts College of Osteopathy, . . .	3	1	
College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston, .	2	3	
College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston, .	2	2	
College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston, .	1	1	Second examination.
Tufts,	1	2	Third examination.
Tufts,	1	1	Second examination.
Tufts,	1	—	
Middlesex College of Medicine and Surgery, .	1	3	
Middlesex College of Medicine and Surgery, .	1	1	
American School of Osteopathy,	1	3	Fourth examination.
American School of Osteopathy,	1	3	
Meharry Medical College,	1	1	Second examination.
Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, . . .	1	1	Second examination.
Maryland College of Medicine and Surgery, .	1	1	
University of Maryland,	1	1	
Baltimore Medical,	1	1	
Philadelphia College of Osteopathy, . . .	1	1	Second examination.
University of Berlin,	1	1	
University of Laval,	1	2	
Chicago Hospital College of Medicine, . . .	1	1	
University of West Tennessee,	1	2	Third examination.

Applications for registration must be made upon blanks furnished by the Board, and must be accompanied by a certified photograph of the applicant, and filed with the required fee not later than five days before the date of the examination.

On receipt of an application properly executed, a ticket of admission is issued to the applicant, showing his application number and the date and place of the examination. No one is admitted except by ticket bearing date and place of examination. Tickets are issued to rejected applicants entitled to a re-examination, upon payment of a fee of \$3, when applied for not later than Thursday of the week next preceding date of an examination.

Three examinations yearly are provided by law, beginning, respectively, on the second Tuesday in March, July and November. Extra meetings for conducting examinations have been held beginning on the second Tuesday in February, May and September, and special examinations as explained later in the report.

The examinations are conducted in the English language only, and are intended to cover substantially the instruction given in the high-grade medical schools in this country. The subjects on which the examinations are principally conducted are anatomy and histology, physiology and hygiene, pathology and bacteriology, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, diagnosis and therapeutics, pediatrics and toxicology.

Subsequent to an examination, the Board devotes a sufficient number of days to a consideration of the work done by each applicant, and in doubtful cases carefully reviews all the papers and other evidence submitted.

The law requires that the "examinations shall be wholly or in part in writing in the English language." It should be noted that this requirement does not preclude oral examinations in part, nor in part practical work in the laboratory, or other demonstrations of a practical character.

This Board is constantly trying to avoid making its examinations technical except so far as anatomy, pathology, and, occasionally, questions in chemistry are employed, but questions on these subjects are such as every practitioner should be able to answer because they are fundamental or are subdivisions of, or closely related to, the common problems of the practice of medicine. To this end the co-operation of the medical schools has been secured, and a part of each regular examination has been held in some one of the medical schools in this city, which have been visited in rotation. The Board

wishes to express its grateful appreciation of the courtesies extended by these institutions.

The examinations conducted by the Board are not severe, nor is the rating of the work submitted overcritical, so whenever it appears that any considerable proportion of graduates of any school fail to secure approval, such showing strongly indicates deficiency either in the candidate or in the curriculum of the institution from which he came. This Commonwealth has not adopted the policy of declining to accept applications from all poorly equipped medical schools, and, consequently, in a negative way, encourages the continuation of such institutions. This is to a certain extent an injustice, since it indirectly leads to the selection of such schools by some young people who are led to believe that an acceptable medical equipment will be secured, but later find that the time spent has been wasted. Thirty-nine States in this Union are carefully protecting those desiring to study medicine by discrediting certain low-grade schools.

The Legislature of 1918 enacted amendments to the medical registration law under chapters 85 and 217 of the General Acts. These amendments provide that the examination fee to be filed with an application shall be \$25, and for each re-examination, allowed under the application, a fee of \$3; also that a fee shall be paid for certified statements of registration, the amount of the fee being from \$1 to \$2, according to the form of certificate required, and \$5 for a duplicate copy of certificate of registration.

It has become more generally known that the disciplinary powers of this Board have been amplified under laws enacted in recent years. This knowledge has led to the filing of complaints alleging irregularities of professional conduct ranging from inefficiency to criminal practice.

Whenever it has appeared that complaints were due to imperfect understanding of the duties and privileges of physicians, or were prompted by prejudice, every effort has been made by the Board to act as mediator, or by advice to correct wrong impressions, for it should be recognized that the disappointments incident to disease should not be the foundation for unwarranted attacks upon a practitioner. But whenever it has been shown that there was reasonable ground to believe that a physician had been guilty of an unprofessional or crim-

inal act, the Board has devoted much time to hearing all relevant testimony, and has carefully weighed the evidence. In all doubtful cases the Board has tried to be lenient, and the attitude of lawyers who have appeared in the interest of clients has been unusually complimentary. In no instance has there been any action which would indicate that lawyers had reason to feel that the Board had acted unjustly. In some cases the hearings lasted through several days.

The following tabulation shows the number of cases which were given formal hearings: —

Cases.	HEARINGS ON COMPLAINTS AND PETITIONS.	Action.
1	Conspiracy to defraud,	Registration suspended until May 1, 1918.
2	Extortion and deceit,	Registration suspended for three months from Jan. 23, 1918.
3	Criminal abortion,	Registration suspended.
4	Petition for reinstatement,	Reinstated.
5	Petition for reinstatement,	Reinstated.
6	Criminal abortion,	Registration canceled.
7	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
8	Insanity and unprofessional conduct,	Registration canceled.
9	Fraud and unprofessional conduct,	Registration suspended.
10	Petition for reinstatement,	Reinstated.
11	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
12	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
13	Illegal prescribing and furnishing of narcotic drugs.	Registration canceled.
14-19	Collusion with unregistered practitioners of medicine.	Placed on file.
20	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
21	Improper and insufficient medical service,	Case dismissed without censure.
22-24	Collusion with unregistered practitioners of medicine.	Placed on file.
25	Irregularities in returns to board of health,	Dismissed without censure.
26	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
27	Petition for reinstatement,	Leave to withdraw.
28, 29	Unprofessional conduct,	Cases dismissed.
30	Unprofessional conduct in undue familiarity with girl patients.	Registration canceled.
31	Insufficient medical service,	Leave to withdraw.
32	Deception and extortion,	Suspended for six months.
33	Extortion,	Leave to withdraw.
34	Extortion; fraudulent claims of professional ability and false statements in application for registration.	Registration revoked.
35	Petition for reopening case,	Leave to withdraw.
36	Extortion,	After hearing, petitioner withdrew complaint.

The provision of law which permitted physicians registered in adjoining States to practice in border towns of this Commonwealth without registration has been repealed by the Legislature. It was the purpose of this Board to take action to prevent the continuance of this custom, but when it was found that there was great inconvenience and in many cases suffering resulting from the departure of physicians who entered the medical corps of the Army, and in addition there was an unusual amount of illness throughout the State, it was reasonable to regard these complications as emergencies, and that the welfare of the people demanded postponement of all interference with medical service.

Indeed, the State was thankful for all outside assistance, and many volunteers (some from comparatively remote localities) were welcome. Although technically there was an infraction of the law during the epidemic, in so far as unregistered practitioners were conducting the practice of medicine among the people of this State, the appalling emergency justified the acceptance of all possible medical service.

As soon as may be reasonable, however, all practitioners from other States, working in border towns of this State, will be required to comply with the law.

The Board has met twenty times during the year for hearings, conducting examinations and general business; six of these meetings lasted three days and one two days, so that the time devoted to Board work in Boston has consumed thirty-three days. In addition to the usual five yearly meetings for examination of candidates, the Board held one additional large examination this year in February for the accommodation of mid-year graduates who desired to apply for the medical corps of the Army or Navy. Sixteen special examinations have been given at other times for candidates for Army or Navy service. These special examinations were held whenever it appeared that a physician desired to enter service in order to meet the requirements of the government.

In addition to the time devoted to the meetings of the Board in Boston, the members have spent time at home equivalent to thirty-two and one-half days in rating the written work submitted by applicants in examination, preparatory for final

tabulation at the meetings in Boston. This shows that the service rendered by the six members of the Board conducting practice at home is largely an unpaid contribution to the State, for any physician in active practice would necessarily sustain a considerable loss in income while spending this amount of time away.

It seemed to be difficult for the Army and Navy to secure the required number of physicians, for insistent appeals were made from time to time for more men to apply for commissions. It was felt by this Board that every effort should be made in this emergency, and no person eligible for consideration by the government was kept waiting. These frequent emergency examinations were conducted in the office of the Board by the secretary, assisted by such members as might be able to attend. The written work was forwarded to the absent members, and the final returns tabulated. The Board felt that under war conditions the needs of the government should receive first consideration, and no applicant was rejected who appeared to be sufficiently well qualified to fill acceptably government positions. Medical schools were making every effort to shorten courses by doing away with vacation periods, and, while covering the usual field of study, graduating students in the shortest possible time. The Board has been convinced that the course adopted was for the best interests of the country.

The statistics show that a larger percentage of applicants have secured registration than in former years, but the conditions made it absolutely necessary to avoid the possibility of rejecting any useful practitioner, because even though all might not be accepted or needed for war work, all available medical material was needed for civilian service.

The recent epidemic of influenza demonstrated the depleted medical resources of the State, for many cases of dangerous and painful illness, in addition to many major accidents, were either not cared for at all or were inadequately treated.

Many students of history affirm that war is followed by unusual disturbances of living conditions which induce sickness, and it is feared that the demand for physicians cannot be met for some time to come.

It is regrettable that the improv'd methods which are being developed for the better education of physicians may have to be modified for a time, but this is a part of the penalty exacted by war.

Several physicians formerly practicing in towns in Massachusetts were so impressed by government appeals that they left their homes, with the result that there is no available medical service left in these localities. Appeals are coming to this Board for doctors to fill these vacancies, and notices have been sent to recent registrants relative to these openings. The Volunteer Medical Service Corps at Washington has also been appealed to, but at the present time very little progress has been made in meeting these requests. In addition, the Board has requested His Excellency the Governor to appeal to the surgeon-general for the release of such physicians as may be spared from the service.

Responding to complaints made by students and graduates of a certain medical school in this State, this Board co-operated with the Attorney-General in presenting to the legislative committee on education facts relating to the treatment of these students, and the alleged lack of proper equipment of this institution to carry on the functions of a medical college.

The committee did not see fit to take any action at this time, and, so far as has been learned, has not made any investigation of the curriculum of the institution.

Since this Commonwealth has not adopted the practice maintained by many of the other States of providing for inspection and supervision of medical schools and colleges, this Board recommends that some responsible committee or department of the State be authorized to investigate and report upon the status of medical education in this State, and, further, be directed to make such recommendations as may be found advisable, because the alleged abuses should be either demonstrated or disproved.

At the present time one may feel reasonable doubt as to the propriety of allowing any institution, whose students or graduates in any considerable number publicly criticize the quality of the instruction given, to continue to solicit the expenditure of time and money.

The time devoted to the study of medicine should not be

wasted, for every student is entitled to all the instruction and training which are promised in the published statements of educational institutions, and if he is deceived, both he and the people whom he afterwards serves are defrauded.

Some of these students have made sacrifices to secure funds for an education and they feel that they cannot afford to lose that which has been paid and make a new start, for courses taken in a low-grade school are not accredited in the better institutions, hence the time spent may have been practically lost. This wastage, if it exists, is a reflection on the policies of a State which permits it to continue, for young people are entitled to protection against loss of time and money just as much as any citizen is protected in his property rights. In some instances, a student's time and money saved for his education are his only assets aside from the common asset of his person.

Any investigation of conditions suggested by complaints which have reached this Board could be properly conducted by the legislative committee on education or by the State Board of Education.

The Board again wishes to state its appreciation of the work done by Mr. Arthur E. Keating of the State police force, who has given much valuable assistance to the Board in making investigations and preparing cases for prosecution.

REGISTRATION OF CHIROPODISTS.

Although every possible effort has been made to notify every person who might have registered under the waiver in the law providing for the registration of the practice of chiropody, so many of these practitioners failed to take advantage of this registration without examination, the Legislature was convinced that the time for general registration should be extended, and hence chapter 15 of the General Acts of 1918 was enacted, giving all who had been in practice two years prior to the passage of the act, the privilege of registration without examination if application was made on or before May 1, 1918.

The Board has registered this year 73 applicants, 8 of whom are graduates of schools of chiropody which meet the requirements of the law at the present time. The remaining 65 comprise those granted registration under the extension of time,

those registered under re-examination, and those whose applications were filed last year but relative to which final disposition had not been made.

At the time of the passage of the law comparatively few practitioners of chiropody were graduates of recognized schools, and there were few pupils studying this branch of medicine, but now that the State is regulating this practice, more people will secure a better education and be in position to apply for registration under the requirements of the law. There will be in the future a larger number of applicants, because of educational facilities which have developed.

The law restricting chiropody to registered practitioners is now generally respected and obeyed, but at first there were representatives of firms manufacturing arch supports and other appliances who were examining and prescribing for troubles which can only be treated legally by registered practitioners. Every reported irregularity of this kind was investigated by the Board and the law explained, with the result that this practice is not carried on to any extent at the present time. It should be fully understood by dealers in footwear that only those who are properly registered by this Board may diagnose and prescribe for disabilities of the feet, and any one learning of attempts to practice illegally should report the fact to this Board.

Messrs. Harry P. Kenison and Gilbert N. Pettingill have continued to act as representatives of the chiropodists in association with Drs. S. H. Calderwood, A. L. Chase and W. P. Bowers of this Board in conducting examinations.

For conducting the work of the chiropody department for the ensuing year the Board recommends an appropriation, as follows:—

For members of the department and chiropodist assistants, \$600; and for incidental expenses of the department, \$487..

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CHIROPODY DEPARTMENT.

Appropriations.

Salaries of Board members,	\$300 00
Salaries of chiropodist assistants,	300 00
Clerical services,	350 00
Incidental expenses of department,	600 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,550 00

Expenditures.

Salaries of members of department,	\$300 00
Salaries of chiropodist assistants,	300 00
Emergency clerical services,	73 50
Incidental expenses of department,	290 98
	<hr/>
	\$964 48

Receipts.

55 examination fees, at \$10 each,	\$550 00
11 examination fees, at \$15 each,	165 00
449 renewal fees, at \$2 each,	898 00
3 re-examinations, at \$2 each,	6 00
1 certified statement, at \$1,	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,620 00

The Board again calls attention to the inadequate accommodations furnished by the State, for the space provided is insufficient for the transaction of its routine business, and whenever it has been necessary to conduct hearings, not only the Board but complainants, defendants, counsel and witnesses are seriously inconvenienced. It is most undignified for a State department to be obliged to transact important business under conditions which are annoying to all concerned, and it is hoped that adequate accommodations will be provided in order that methods of procedure and opportunities for judicial conclusions may be freed from the annoyance incident to overcrowding and interruption.

It is the purpose of the Board to publish this year a certified list of practitioners registered in medicine during the past three years, and also a list of chiropodists registered, so that the new issue, used in conjunction with the publication already at hand, will furnish a complete list to date.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL H. CALDERWOOD, M.D., *Chairman.*

WALTER P. BOWERS, M.D., *Secretary.*

AUGUSTUS L. CHASE, M.D.

CHARLES H. COOK, M.D.

MICHAEL F. FALLON, M.D.

MATTHEW T. MAYES, D.O., M.D.

NATHANIEL R. PERKINS, M.D.